## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OFA-01 DLOS-04 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 /071 W

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O R 231705Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5985

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

CNO WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL REYKJAVIK 0114

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS PFOR MARR IC UK US NATO

SUBJECT: FISHERIES DISPUTE: GOI ADDS ADDITIONAL CONDITION FOR

**TALKS** 

1. BRIT DCM TOLD EMB DCM TODAY THAT GOI HAD SUDDENLY ADDED ADDITIONAL CONDITION FOR HOLDING SCHEDULED WILSON-HALLGRIMSSON TALKS JANUARY 24-25 WHICH RAISES QUESTION WHETHER TALKS CAN BE HELD AT ALL. IN SPITE OF TACIT UNDERSTANDING WHICH NATO SECGEN LUNS CONVEYED TO BRITISH THAT IF UK FRIGATES WERE REMOVED FROM CLAIMED ICELANDIC FISHING ZONE, TRAWLERS WOULD NOT BE HARASSED, GOI IS NOW DEMANDING COMPLETE REMOVAL OF TRAWLERS IF TALKS ARE TO BE HELD.

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- 2. BRITISH AMBASSADOR WAS HANDED FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION FROM WILSON AT NOON TODAY BUT LETTER STATED THAT "REMOVAL OF THE FISHING TRAWLERS FROM THE FISHING GROUNDS WOULD FACILITATE A SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEM." PRIVATELY, HOWEVER, PM HALLGRIMSSON TOLD AMBASSADOR EAST HE HAD BEEN GIVEN ULTIMATUM BY MINJUSTICE OLAFUR JOHANNESSON THAT BRITISH MUST AGREE TO REMOVE TRAWLERS BEFORE TALKS COULD TAKE PLACE. EAST ASKED IF HE HAD IN MIND REMOVAL ONLY FOR PERIOD OF WEEKEND TALKS BUT HALLGRIMSSON SAID THAT EVEN IF TRAWLERS WERE REMOVED AND HE WENT TO LONDON, HE HAD NO MANDATE TO MAKE AN AGREEMENT AND MUST REPORT TO CABINET ON HIS RETURN FOR FURTHER DIRECTION. CABINET WOULD HAVE TO GIVE APPROVAL BEFORE ANY KIND OF UNDERSTANDING COULD BE REACHED. THEREFORE, BRITISH FEEL THEY ARE BEING REQUESTED TO QUIT FISHING FOR INDEFINITE FUTURE ON CHANCE THAT EVENTUALLY SOME SORT OF AGREEMENT CAN BE HAMMERED OUT.
- 3. SINCE HALLGRIMSSON PARTY HAD PLANNED TO LEAVE FOR LONDON EARLY TOMORROW, REPLY FROM LONDON IS EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT FEW HOURS. ALTHOUGH BRITISH EMBASSY BELIEVES UK CABINET STRONGLY WISHES TO TERMINATE COD WAR AND IS PREPARED TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT GESTURES TO DO SO, QUESTION WILL BE WHETHER CAINBET CAN FACE DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ACCEPTING THIS NEW ULTIMATUM. IRVING

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: FISHERIES DISPUTE: GOI ADDS ADDITIONAL CONDITION FOR TALKS

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, MARR, IC, UK, US, NATO To: STATE

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